THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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Assistant to the President



Approved For Release 2005/07/12 : CIA-RDP84-00313R000300120002-4

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

JAN 19 1982

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

EDWIN L. HARPER

SUBJECT:

Presidential Recognition of Employee Actions and Achievements Benefiting

the Government

I. BACKGROUND

Under the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, the Inspectors General have been given authority to grant cash awards to Federal Government employees whose disclosures of fraud, waste, or mismanagement result in cost savings for the agency. The same legislation also authorizes Presidential awards for employee actions that result in greater efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of Government operations and in substantial cost savings.

Don Devine recommends that we build on these separate but related programs by arranging for Presidential letters of recognition and commendation to be sent to employees who have made significant contributions in this area. An IG award recipient could also be eligible for a Presidential award in some cases, although the Presidential awards are much broader in scope.

Previous Administrations have found such programs to be valuable.

We share Don's view that such a Presidential recognition program could be worthwhile, particularly if the letters of commendation are selective; i.e., geared toward measurable savings of \$10,000 or more.

II. OPTIONS

Don's recommendation is very straightforward. The basic options available are (a) to establish a special Presidential program or (b) to allow existing agency

programs to continue to serve all recognition purposes. The advantage of a Presidential recognition program is that it would offer recurring opportunities for you to demonstrate your interest in having Federal personnel at all levels involved in supporting your objectives of reducing spending and improving Government operations. The Presidential recognition program would emphasize positive employee contributions to increasing the effectiveness of Government programs including constructive suggestions, inventions, and special acts or services. It would also be a solid complement to our current efforts through the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency to reduce waste and increase effectiveness.

The Office of Personnel Management would take care of the administrative details of conducting the program. The Director of OPM and the Chairman of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency would advise the President on individuals deserving recognition.

III. RECOMMENDATION

I recommend that you approve option (a) to establish a Presidential recognition program. Dave Stockman concurs.

We have prepared the attached documents by which to initiate the program:

- o a memorandum for your signature to the heads of all Executive Departments and Agencies announcing the program and enlisting their support; and
- o a Presidential Statement for release to the press announcing the program.

| Approve | Disap | prove | |
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Attachments

Approved For Release 2005/07/12: CIA-RDP84-00313R000300120002-4

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

We have been making excellent progress in improving the management and operations of Federal programs and in reducing waste, fraud, and other abuses. In the last six months, for example, the Inspectors General in the departments and agencies, working with your top managers, have saved the taxpayers over \$2 billion. This is a fine start by a fine team.

Today I want to strengthen that effort by creating a complementary program to encourage every Federal employee to take the positive extra steps to increase the economy, efficiency, and effectiveness of Federal programs. I have instructed the Office of Personnel Management to administer a new program to provide for special Presidential recognition and commendation for employees whose exceptional ideas and achievements in increasing Government efficiency, economy, and effectiveness, and in eliminating waste and mismanagement result in substantial cost savings to the U.S. taxpayer.

I would like each of you to submit to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management the names of those employees whose efforts have been recognized since January 20, 1981, under your agency's Incentive Awards Program for contributions which have measurable benefits of \$10,000 or more, and who you believe should be considered for Presidential Management Improvement Awards. The Chairman of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency and the Director of the Office of Personnel Management will advise me on those individuals deserving recognition.

I believe that Federal employees have much to offer to improve our Government, and I want them to know that their ideas and suggestions are sought, welcomed, and appreciated.

THE WHITE HOUSE Office of the Press Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESIDENTIAL AWARDS TO GO TO EMPLOYEES FOR ACTIONS BENEFITING THE GOVERNMENT

President Reagan today announced a program of Presidential recognition and commendation for Federal employees whose exceptional ideas and achievements in increasing Government efficiency, economy, and effectiveness, and in eliminating waste and mismanagement, result in substantial cost savings to the U.S. taxpayer. "I believe that Federal employees have much to offer to improve our Government, and I want them to know that their ideas and suggestions are sought, welcomed, and appreciated," said the President.

The President announced the Program in a memorandum to the heads of all Executive Branch departments and agencies. (Copy attached.)

Federal employees whose contributions have resulted in measurable benefits to the Government of \$10,000 or more will be eligible for Presidential recognition and commendation awards. The awards program will be administered by the Office of Personnel Management. The Chairman of the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency and the Director of OPM will advise the President on individuals deserving recognition.

Attachment

Approved For Release 2005/07/12: CIA-RDP84-00313R006566720002-4 EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

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Comments, please, to DCI NLT 1000 25 January.

Executive Secretary

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| 1. Exec. Secretariat 7E-12 Hdqrs. | 1/22 | 1/22 | SE | This proposal from OPM involves Presidential letters for | |
| 2. EBP 7E-12 Hdqrs. | | 1-2287 | KB | measurable savings of \$10,000 or more. We have participated in similar programs in the past and | |
| 3. DDCI 7E-12 Hdqrs. | . 1 | 122 | 8 | found that our employees were honored to receive such recognition. A recommended response is | |
| 4. DCI 7E-12 Hdqrs. | le de | 5 JAN 20 | Wild | attached. | ST |
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| 6. | | | | James N. Glerum Attachment | |
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